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Nicaragua Formally Accuses U.S. Of Role in Supply Flight to Rebels

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MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Oct. 8 — The Nicaraguan Government formally accused the Reagan Administration today of sponsoring a rebel supply plane downed here and demanded an end to all American support for attacks in Nicaragua.

The accusations were made in a formal diplomatic protest that Nicaraguan officials said was sent to Secretary of State George P. Shultz today. An American Embassy spokesman said the embassy had not seen or received the Nicaraguan protest.

Noting that one American had been captured and two others killed when Nicaraguan troops shot down the rebel supply plane last Sunday, the protest note asked the United States "to obey the sentence of the International Court of Justice and end military and paramilitary activities in Nicaragua and against Nicaragua."

The protest note repeated Government statements that the Americans on the rebel plane were operatives of the Central Intelligence Agency. American officials deny the charge.

American Is Questioned

Nicaraguan officials said today that they were continuing to question the American captured from the downed rebel supply plane while apparently refusing to allow American diplomats to visit him.

Capt. Rosa Pasos, a Nicaraguan Army spokesman, said the prisoner, identified as Eugene Hasenfus, was being questioned by army and intelligence officials.

She said he was being "well treated" and would probably be allowed to see an American consular officer within two days. Reporters have not yet been allowed to question Mr. Hasenfus.

A spokesman for the United States Embassy said the embassy had sent two notes Monday asking to see Mr. Hasenfus and the bodies of two Americans killed when the rebel plane was shot down over southern Nicaragua on Sunday. An unidentified Latin crew member was also killed.

Duarte Issues Denial

In El Salvador, President José Napoleón Duarte denied Nicaraguan charges of official Salvadoran involvement in the rebel supply flight. Mr. Duarte said the Salvadoran Army high command had assured him that the Nicaraguan accusation, which was highly detailed, was false.

But a Foreign Ministry official here said the Government was still considering an official protest to El Salvador. Nicaraguan officials also continue to reject official United States denials of

any involvement with the rebel flight.

Nicaraguan officials have shown reporters Salvadoran Air Force identity cards that appeared to have been issued to two American crew members of the downed plane. Mr. Hasenfus also told reporters Monday that the flight had originated in El Salvador.

Lieut. Col. Javier Carrón, who heads army operations in the worst war zones of the country, said in an interview that the army would step up its efforts to shoot down rebel supply flights, which apparently are increasing.

ABC News reportedly has a videotape taken almost two months ago showing the plane that was shot down standing in front of the Southern Air Transport terminal in Miami. The man who apparently was chief pilot of the downed plane, identified as William J. Cooper, appears to have been carrying an identity card issued by Southern Air Transport, an air cargo company with offices in Miami.

The aircraft on the video tape appears to be a C-123 military supply plane with the serial number N-4410F, which matches the number of the plane shot down in Nicaragua.

Nicaraguan officials expressed amazement today at the seeming lack of security measures by the crew members of the downed plane, who they say were carrying several personal identity cards and other documentation implicating the Salvadoran Government and Southern Air Transport in the supply flight.

'Yankee on His Knees!'

The Government-controlled press here displayed enormous front-page pictures today of the wreckage of the plane and of Mr. Hasenfus being led away with a rope by a diminutive Sandinista soldier.

Headlines declared: "Yankee on his knees!" and "The defeat of Rambo Hasenfus." Under the headline "Just like in Vietnam," the photo of Mr. Hasenfus being led away was paired with a file photo of a North Vietnamese soldier arresting an American pilot during the Vietnam War.

According to Government press accounts, Mr. Hasenfus hid for 20 hours in a small hut in the jungle after parachuting from the falling supply plane. He was then captured without a fight by the Sandinista unit that shot down the plane.

A senior Sandinista army official said a Nicaraguan patrol had detected the rebel plane almost as soon as it crossed into Nicaraguan air space from Costa Rica. The patrol alerted a special antiguerrilla army unit deeper inside Nicaragua, the official said.